

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 DHA-02 OMB-01 EUR-12 ACDA-07  
/094 W  
-----240932Z 018233 /21

R 201045Z MAY 77  
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8986  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JERUSALEM 734

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, IS, JO  
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH BAKERJIAN, WEST BANK UNRWA OFFICIAL

REF: JERUSALEM 732

1. CONGEN OFFICER ON MAY 19 CALLED ON TONY BAKERJIAN, UNRWA OFFICIAL AND WIDELY-RESPECTED WEST BANKER TO GET HIS VIEWS ON ISRAELI ELECTION RESULTS. BAKERJIAN THOUGHT THAT DESPITE EFFORTS OF JERUSALEM ARAB LANGUAGE PRESS (SEE REFTEL) TO SHOW NO ALARM, ALL ON WEST BANK WERE VERY CONCERNED OVER BEGIN VICTORY AND WHAT IT COULD PORTEND FOR THEM. HE NOTED THAT IT WAS BEGIN WHO WANTED TO ANNEX ALL OF WEST BANK AND IN 1967 CALLED ON ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AT THAT TIME TO DO SO. ARABS IN ISRAEL WOULD ALSO BE IN FOR DIFFICULT TIME HE THOUGHT AS BEGIN IS BASICALLY ANTI-ARAB.

2. AS TO COMPARISON BETWEEN A BEGIN GOVERNMENT AND PREVIOUS  
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ISRAELI GOVERNMENTS, BAKERJIAN SAID THAT LABOR GOVERNMENTS HAD BECOME A KNOWN AND SOMEWHAT PREDICTABLE QUANTITY. THERE WAS A HISTORY OF PRACTICAL ACCOMMODATION AND THE LABOR GOVERNMENTS HAD MADE SOME MODIFICATIONS TO THEIR POLICIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LOCAL NEEDS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE INCREASE OVER THE 10 YEARS OF OCCUPATION OF TRADE BETWEEN WEST BANK AND JORDAN AS WELL AS THE GRANTING

PERMISSION FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN 1976 BOTH SHOWED  
SOME CAPACITY BY THE FORMER ISRAELI GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE TACTI-  
CAL CHANGES IN POLICIES TOWARD THOSE IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.  
WITH BEGIN, BAKERJIAN SAID, ONE CANNOT BE SURE HOW THE  
ACCESSION TO POWER WILL AFFECT HIM BUT HIS PAST RHETORIC  
CLEARLY IS VERY DISTURBING.

3. BAKERJIAN WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE ISRAELI  
ELECTION UPSET ON THE FUTURE PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS - WOULD  
THERE BE A PERIOD OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY WITH A THIN MAJORITY  
GOVERNMENT INCAPABLE OF GETTING KNESSET APPROVAL FOR DIFFICULT  
DECISIONS? WOULD THIS LEAD TO NEW ELECTIONS IN BRIEF PERIOD  
AND WOULD THIS MEAN FURTHER DELAYS IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN  
ISRAEL AND THE ARABS?

4. IT WAS INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION, BKAERJIAN SAID THAT THE  
US MUST MOVE ISRAEL IN THE DIRECTION OF PEACE. WITHOUT US  
PRESSURE INCLUDING THREATENED REDUCTION OF ECONOMIC AND MILI-  
TARY SUPPORT THERE COULD BE NO PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF ARAB-  
ISRAELI CONFLICT. THIS WAS TRUE UNDER RABIN AND PERES AND  
WOULD BE EVEN MORE SO UNDER BEGIN.

5. COMMENT: BAKERJIAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN REALISTIC ABOUT  
THE DIFFICULTY OF ANY RESOLUTION OF THE ISRAELI-ARAB  
CONFLICT. LIKE MOST WEST BANKERS HE SEES THE PROBLEM AS  
STEMMING FROM ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE WHICH CAN ONLY BE  
CHANGED BY OUTSIDE PRESSURE AND THAT MUST COME FROM THE  
US. CONSEQUENTLY FOR HIM THE QUESTION REMAINS THE SAME UNDER  
BEGIN AS UNDER THE FORMER LABOR GOVERNMENTS - WILL THE US  
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PRESIDENT BE WILLING TO TAKE THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL HEAT FROM  
PRO-ISRAELI ELEMENTS IN THE US AND PUT THE NECESSARY PRESSURE  
ON ISRAEL TO TRADE TERRITORY FOR PEACE?

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WEST BANK, ELECTION RESULTS, PERSONAL OPINION, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JERUSA00734  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770195-0308, D770181-0191  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 JERUSALEM 732  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2440581  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISCUSSION WITH BAKERJIAN, WEST BANK UNRWA OFFICIAL  
**TAGS:** PINS, PFOR, IS, JO, UNRWA, (BAKERJIAN, TONY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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